

Message Text

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17

ACTION ITFE-05

INFO OCT-01 EA-06 ISO-00 SS-15 NSC-05 SCA-01 SR-02 ORM-01

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CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-01 USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02

SSO-00 NSCE-00 /078 W

----- 111957

R 100427Z JUN 75

FM AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5935

INFO AMEMBASSY MANILA

CINCPACREP GUAM

AMCONSUL MELBOURNE

AMCONSUL SYDNEY

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE CANBERRA 3756

CINCPACREP FOR NORM SWEET

DEPT FOR IATF

E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: SREF, RP, CASC, AS

SUBJ: U.S. MILITARY TRANSPORTATION FOR VOLUNTEER AUSTRALIAN
MEDICAL PERSONNEL

REF: A.MANILA 7773 (NOTAL)

B. CANBERRA 3345 (NOTAL)

1. EMBASSY NOT RPT NOT SURPRISED THAT MICHAEL DARBY (REF A)
HAS BEEN ATTEMPTING TO PROMOTE U.S. MILITARY TRANSPORTATION
FOR VOLUNTEER AUSTRALIAN MEDICAL PERSONNEL WORKING WITH VIET-
NAMESE REFUGEES ON GUAM. DARBY, WHO IS SOMETHING OF PROMOTER
BUT IS DYNAMIC AND EVIDENTLY WELL-MOTIVATED, HAS SOUGHT,
LARGELY WITHOUT SUCCESS, TO OBTAIN ROYAL AUSTRALIAN AIR FORCE
TRANSPORTATION FROM SYDNEY TO GUAM FOR SUCH PERSONNEL. HE
HAS ENCOUNTERED CLEARLY NEGATIVE ATTITUDE FROM PRIME MINISTER
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WHITLAM, WHO IS NOT RPT NOT INTERESTED IN PROVIDING SIGNIFICANT

ASSISTANCE TO VIETNAMESE REFUGEES.

2. THERE ARE SUBSTANTIAL NUMBERS OF AUSTRALIAN PEDIATRICIANS, GENERAL PRACTITIONERS, AND QUALIFIED NURSES WHO WOULD BE WILLING TO SPEND PERIODS OF UP TO TWO WEEKS WORKING WITH VIETNAMESE REFUGEES IN GUAM. PROBLEM OF MOVING THEM BETWEEN AUSTRALIA AND GUAM AND MAINTAINING THEM THERE HAS NOT RPT NOT YET BEEN RESOLVED. IF THEIR PRESENCE IS JUDGED NECESSARY BY U.S. AGENCIES OPERATING REFUGEE CAMPS, SEEMS REASONABLE FO U.S. TO DO WHAT CAN BE DONE TO MOVE THEM TO AND FROM AUSTRALIA AND MAINTAIN THEM THERE. THEY EXPECT NO RPT NO COMPENSATION, OTHER THAN OPPORTUNITY TO CONTRIBUTE THEIR SERVICES IN WORTHWHILE HUMANITARIAN CAUSE. HALFWAY SOLUTION MIGHT BE ARRANGEMENT TO MOVE THEM FROM CLARK TO GUAM AND RETURN, WITH VOLUNTEERS ARRANGING COMMERCIAL TRANSPORTATION FROM SYDNEY TO MANILA AND RETURN.

3. EMBASSY CANBERRA CANNOT ESTIMATE NUMBERS OF MEDICAL PERSONNEL THAT MIGHT BE INVOLVED IF U.S. UNDERTAKES TO PROVIDE THEM WITH FULL OR PARTIAL TRANSPORTATION FROM SYDNEY TO GUAM AND RETURN. NUMBERS IN PART ARE FUNCTION OF NEED FOR SUCH PERSONNEL, AS DETERMINED BY APPROPRIATE U.S. AGENCIES. AS IDEA OF POTENTIAL, HOWEVER, MICHAEL DARBY PROVIDED EMBASSY MAY 14 WITH LIST OF NAMES AND ADDRESSES OF 78 AUSTRALIAN MEDICAL PERSONNEL WHO HAD VOLUNTEERED TO HIM TO GO TO GUAM TO WORK WITH REFUGEES. NUMBER COULD PROBABLY BE INCREASED IF DEFINITE ARRANGEMENT FOR TRANSPORTATION AND MAINTENANCE IN GUAM COULD BE OFFERED THEM.

4. QUESTIONS IN PARA 3 OF REF A ARE GOOD ONES, TO WHICH EMBASSY CANBERRA WOULD ALSO LIKE TO HAVE ANSWERS, SO THAT WE CAN RESPOND TO INQUIRIES WE RECEIVE.
GREEN

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